ORIGINAL COMMUNICATIONS.

NOISES IN THE EARS.

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IN the middle of last December a man of thirty years of age came to me, who looked perfectly healthy, but who complained of very distressing tidal noises in the left ear as well as left-side deafness. He had had these noises for twelve years. These last facts made me at once cut his description short—" age thirty years, ear noisy for twelve years ; " the inference was obvious, and I thereupon proceeded to examine his wisdom teeth, and found, as is almost invariably the case with such a history, the left lower wisdom imperfectly irrupted and interlocked with the neighbouring molar. The diagnosis was obvious, and yet this man had been to Guy's Hospital, St. Bartholomew's, to a private specialist, and to many other doctors besides, without having had his case even diagnosed.

No doubt these men recorded very carefully the appearance of the membranes and the hearing distance of the ears, and used most learned and skilful instruments to determine how much and what he heard. They may even, with Artemus Ward, have asked him if he ever had the measles, and if so, how many. But what they did not do was to examine his teeth.

I recommended him to have the mal-irrupted tooth removed, and to take as physic two tablets of *Ferrum bromidum*, 6th dec. dil., three times a day. His hearing was then 3½ inches in the left ear, and when seen a fortnight afterwards—the tooth having been meantime removed—the hearing had gone up to 25 inches, and the noises had changed in character from tidal to singing noises, " as of a kettle," and were much less distressing. *Anemone nemorosa* ϕA, a remedy nearly allied to *Pulsatilla pratensis*, was then given, and in a fortnight the report was that the noises went away completely for a few days, and then returned and affected the right ear as well, though again better the last few days, and the hearing normal.

It would probably have met all requirements to have left the patient without further physic, considering that the dose had acted as curative doses often do : improvement, and then a disturbance wave, and then improvement again. But a generation that dearly loves its physic has to be conciliated, and as the *Ferr. brom.* 6x had seemed to benefit him, I again gave it on the 18th of January, 1900, and on the 8th of February he returned, the hearing having kept good, but the noises being very distressing, a constant hissing, and also a thumping synchronous with the beating of the heart, worse at night.

The patient also expressed his belief in the *Anemone* having benefited him more than anything.

At this stage of the proceedings I gave him *Kali hydriod.* 30, one dose of a couple of globules, and on the 22nd of February had the satisfaction to find him practically quite well. The same evening that the *K. hyd.* was given he had felt a distinct change, and the next morning the noises had gone, and have not since returned. Here, as is very often the case, improvement did not set in at once after the removal of the offending wisdom tooth, and though complete alleviation might ultimately have come from its extraction, it is not in such cases as these a wise rule to wait for this, but rather to expedite and assure success by the scientific prescription of remedies, even though some of the prescriptions may not be as commercially prudent as the *Monthly Homeopathic Review* requires.

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